

*Briefing  
Legislative Policy Group (Leg)*

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20 JUL 1978

NOTE FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Frederick P. Hitz  
Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: 21 July Meeting with Republican Leadership on  
Electronic Surveillance Legislation

1. On 21 July you will meet with individual members of the House Republican Policy Committee to discuss informally with the Republican Leadership Administration support of H.R. 7308 and S. 1566, the Electronic Surveillance bills. Bobby Inman has also been invited to this consultation session.

2. Congressional attendees will include Representatives John B. Anderson (R., Ill.), head of the Republican Conference; Robert H. Michel (R., Ill.), Republican Whip; and John J. Rhodes (R., Ariz.), Minority Leader. Representative Edward P. Boland (D., Mass.), Chairman, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and Representative Morgan F. Murphy (D., Ill.) may attend.

3. This meeting is in direct response to initiatives by Representative McClory (R., Ill.) who is attempting to garner support from members of the House Republican Policy Committee to oppose the electronic surveillance legislation, H.R. 7308, on the floor.

4. The House Rules Committee granted a rule for floor consideration of the electronic surveillance legislation. The interesting aspect of this rule, which contains no specific limitations or amendments, is that it would require that any proposed amendment be printed in the Congressional Record at least three days prior to its consideration on the floor. Representative McClory introduced on 18 July 1978 an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 7308. This substitute bill reflects the views Representative McClory has expressed all along on electronic surveillance legislation; his proposal essentially tracks the format of H.R. 7308 but in lieu of requiring judicial warrants to conduct foreign intelligence surveillance would require only a certification procedure in the Executive Branch.

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5. Representative Murphy has also introduced an amendment to H.R. 7308; this amendment, while arguably of a technical nature, appears objectionable because it changes the standard for the manner in which common carriers protect the details of electronic surveillance carried out at the request of the Government.

6. You can expect questions at tomorrow's meeting to focus on determining just how strong the Administration support is for the bill. It is important that you strongly reiterate your support for this legislation.

7. Notwithstanding the efforts by Mr. McClory, the legislation is still likely to pass the House. There is no word yet on a date for floor action, but this will likely be decided shortly by the leadership.

8. I have attached several documents which may be helpful in indicating the way in which we have couched our support for the bill to date.



Frederick P. Hitz

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Attachments